

**Department of Public Works and Transportation  
Montgomery County, Maryland**

***DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES***



2002 Recycling Awards Ceremony

***MONTHLY REPORT  
MAY 2002***



*Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>OVERVIEW</u> .....	3
<u>CITIZEN COMMITTEES</u> .....	4
<u>COLLECTIONS</u> .....	4
<u>WASTE MINIMIZATION</u> .....	5
<u>HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS</u> .....	6
<u>AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS</u> .....	6
<u>RECYCLING</u> .....	7
<u>PILOT PROGRAMS</u> .....	8
<u>FACILITY ACTIVITIES</u> .....	8
<u>GENERAL INFORMATION</u> .....	12
<u>SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL</u> .....	13
<u>GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS</u> .....	14

# **OVERVIEW**

## **Tonnage at a Glance**

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2002 began July 1, 2001.)

<b>FACILITY</b>	<b>May FY 02</b>	<b>FY 02 Total</b>	<b>May FY 01</b>	<b>May FY 00</b>
Materials Recovery Facility <sup>(1)</sup>	7,273 tons	73,781 tons	6,528 tons	6,033 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility <sup>(4)</sup>	20,203 tons	211,587 tons	18,549 tons	14,475 tons
American Ash Recycling <sup>(2)</sup>	N/A	N/A	1,034 tons	3,345 tons
Resource Recovery Facility <sup>(3)</sup>	53,536 tons	528,438 tons	48,622 tons	47,980 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	7,497 tons	59,170 tons	5,814 tons	5,577 tons

<sup>(1)</sup>MRF tons reported are outgoing.

<sup>(2)</sup>Tons shipped out to ash recycling facility during the indicated period. All tons so shipped are recycled.

<sup>(3)</sup>RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here.

<sup>(4)</sup>This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled at Clean Rock or other locations.

## **Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation** – During May, program staff:

- Answered routine level of billing and data inquiries.
- Prepared detailed comments on the draft of the 10-year plan.
- Developed and calibrated mathematical model relating RRF ash rate and paper recycling.
- Organized research needed to develop a predictive tool for theoretically forecasting changes in tonnage export as a function of change in tipping fee.
- Posted annual notice of nonresidential land use and waste generation billing categories.
- Prepared interview questions for vacant Management & Budget Specialist III position.
- Continued to carryout routine seasonal duties of the vacant Management & Budget Specialist III position.
- Began detailed analysis of cost overruns in the leaf vacuuming program.
- Initiated year-end review of fixed assets depreciation schedule.
- Continued work on the calendar year recycling rate accounting.
- Continued to train new incumbent to become the Hauler Billing System Manager, preparing procedures manuals, and running the May billing cycle largely under the hand of the new incumbent.

- Rated the resumes for both the vacant Program Specialist I position in property billing quality assurance and the vacant Office Services Coordinator position who will report to the new, also vacant, Management & Budget Specialist III.
- Updated internal databases with respect to new properties, and prepared monthly report of service unit billing changes to County refuse and recycling collection contractors.
- Borrowed Satar Namjou from the Division of Highway Services (DHS) and trained him in property billing quality assurance functions. (He did well, but plans to return to DHS on June 5<sup>th</sup>).
- In preparation for FY03 billing, processed 301 changes in the TXA170 system including 215 accounts requiring new billing codes to achieve correct billings, and respecting the removal of 80 properties (Grovesnor Square Homeowner's Association) from leaf vacuuming service.
- For FY02 property tax bills: entered changes due to last 4 nonresidential appeals, revised 5 tax bills for mistakes, and processed 12 vacancy refunds.
- Beta tested training in new Outlook e-mail system.
- Bill enjoyed training in Leadership Institute.

## **CITIZEN COMMITTEES**

**Facilities Implementation Group** – The next scheduled FIG meeting is July 9, 2002, at the Gothic Barn in Dickerson. Topics on the agenda include a report on the Spring Traffic Count, the Master Plan Update and Gap Analysis of the RRF.

**Solid Waste Advisory Committee** – SWAC met Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, at the RRF. Eight SWAC members, three County staff and three guests were in attendance. DSWS staff gave presentations on the Montgomery County Yard Trim Composting Facility, the Dickerson Master Plan, the Resource Recovery Facility and the Site 2 Properties.

## **COLLECTIONS**

**Refuse** – Refuse collections went as scheduled for the month of May. Collections were made without incident including the Memorial Holiday slide.

**Recycling** – Mixed paper tonnages for the residential program during the past 40 weeks are as follows:

8/6/01 through 8/31/01	9.10 lbs. per household
9/3/01 through 9/28/01	10.08 lbs. per household
10/1/01 through 10/26/01	11.10 lbs. per household
10/29/01 through 11/23/01	10.83 lbs. per household
11/26/01 through 12/21/01	11.52 lbs. per household
12/24/01 through 1/18/02	9.58 lbs. per household
1/21/02 through 2/15/02	9.01 lbs. per household
2/18/02 through 3/15/02	9.02 lbs. per household
3/18/02 through 4/12/02	9.73 lbs. per household
4/15/02 through 5/10/02	9.81 lbs. per household

**Contractor Performance** – During the month of May, DSWS received 603 complaints. This represented a 210 count decrease from May, 2001, which had 813 complaints.

**Enforcement Actions** – Eight citations were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Four citations	Not having a valid collectors tag attached	\$2,250
Two citations	Not having a current collectors license	\$1,000
Two citations	Early morning collections	\$1,000

Four NOV's were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Two NOV's	Dump/deposit solid wastes
One NOV	Accumulation of solid wastes
One NOV	Not having a current collector's license

**Customer Service** – DSWS received 11,724 incoming calls and 104 follow-up calls were made for quality check. There were 1,393 blue bins delivered and 455 e-mail requests handled by the Customer Service Staff.

## **WASTE MINIMIZATION**

**Latex Paint Management** – DSWS continues to promote home management of latex paint, in particular, Waste Paint Hardener. The campaign has substantially reduced the amount of latex paint coming into the HHW program. Compared to May 2001, the HHW program saw more than 260 more patrons and received an estimated 2 FEWER gallons of all paints per patron.

**Bicycle Recycling** – In May, 60 bikes (1.01 tons) were picked up by Pedals for Progress.

**Computer Recycling** – Approximately 29 tons of computers were recycled in May.

**Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities** – Green Man column continues in Gazette Newspapers and on



the web at both <http://www.gazette.net/columnists/> and [greenman@askdep.com](mailto:greenman@askdep.com). Website visitation from around the country (and world) is quite brisk. Requests to reprint material and graphics arrives weekly from sources as diverse as Aquascape (a water gardening and lifestyles magazine) and the

Bavarian Office for Recycling (in Munich).

Continued work planning for implementation of the in-vessel composting system for the Department of Corrections in Clarksburg; drafted decision memo, which is now under review, pending final approval.



Workshops on environmental lawn care, rain gardens and rainscaping continue at the Audubon Naturalist Society. The Rainscapes program now has a permanent URL and home at [www.Rainscapes.org](http://www.Rainscapes.org); an information folder and factsheets are being printed, along with extensive material available on the Internet.

Taped a segment with the consumer unit of Channel 4 News (NBC4) on water conservation, mulching, and lawn care for airing in June.

Green Man cable television program is being formatted; initial interviews and field taping schedule are being planned.

Full advertising schedule for Grasscycling, Integrated Pest Management, and pollution prevention is currently running in the Gazette Newspapers countywide, including weekend editions.

## **HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS**

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection** – HHW events were held on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at the Transfer Station and Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at the Briggs Chaney Park & Ride Lot. The two events had 635 and 450 patrons, respectively.

**Hg-FREE Campaign** – At the above HHW events, 154 Hg thermometers were collected and 90 digital thermometers were given out.

**Small Quantity Generator (Ecowise) Program** – One Small Quantity Generator (SQG)/Ecowise event was held on May 8<sup>th</sup>, and 8 businesses participated.

## **AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS**

**Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEM Tracking of RRF Operations** – The Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) continued to track the percent load, certain engineering parameters and emissions of all three units. The system recorded emissions from all three units until May 1<sup>st</sup> at approximately 3 p.m., CEMS recorded a spike in CO emissions for unit 2 and no further emissions after that hour, indicating that the unit was brought off-line. Inquiries with Covanta indicated that unit 2 was taken off-line for scheduled maintenance. Thereafter, CEMS recorded emissions from units 1 and 3 only until May 10<sup>th</sup>. At approximately 2 a.m. on May 10<sup>th</sup>, the system started recording emissions from unit 2 indicating that this unit was brought back on-line after completing the maintenance work. Thereafter, the system recorded emissions for all three units till the end of the month. At approximately 10:45 a.m. on May 28<sup>th</sup>, the turbine tripped. However, CEMS recorded no emissions spikes, indicating that all three units were operating normally. There were no other equipment malfunctions in May that affected stack emissions.

For the month of May, Covanta's certified inspector performed the monthly "Opacity test" for the RRF on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is a requirement under Title V of the RRF Air Permit. The test showed zero percent (0%) opacity compared to the Air Permit limit of 10%.

In the first week of May, the set of six CEMS CD-ROM's were updated to include CEMS data up to April 30, 2002. Copies of the CD's were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to FIG Air Quality Committee.

**Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology** –

In May, the leachate evaporator operated only for 16 days. The ground-flare, without leachate evaporation, was operating for 2 days and the back-up flare operated for 13 days. BENTECH is still continuing its efforts to implement an electrical generating facility.

**FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee** – The County's Health Officer, Dr. Carol Garvey, came to the May 14<sup>th</sup> FIG meeting and discussed cancer data in the County. In response to questions raised by the committee members regarding the adequacy of data used in the Epidemiology Study conducted by DSWS, Dr. Garvey explained that the study used data from Health Care Management Organizations and emphasized that these are the best data sources for the type of study that was conducted by DSWS. She also said that individual physicians do not keep the type of data needed for the study.

ENSR submitted the draft report on the Non-Air Media Monitoring Program conducted in fall 2001. Copies of the report were mailed to the FIG Air Quality Committee in the first week of June.

**Contracts** – In May, an amendment to the RAS contract was submitted to the Office of Procurement. If this amendment is approved, the contract will be good until June 3, 2003.

The contract with ENSR will expire in September 2002. This contract needs to be extended to complete the RRF Health Risk Study update and the Cumulative Health Risk Study.

## **RECYCLING**

**Public Outreach** – In lieu of a Recycling Task Force meeting during May, the Task Force participated in a panel discussion at the Recycling Awareness Seminar and Awards Ceremony held on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Canvassing on the mixed paper recycling program continues. New and updated educational materials are being produced. Among these items: the recycling exhibit display, a video on what happens to recyclables and the importance of buying recycled, a comprehensive brochure on recycling in the County.

**Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction** – Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs for businesses. Staff participated in 17 outreach events in May interacting with approximately 2,000 people. Recycling Awareness Week

was held from May 20-24, 2002. Recycling events were held at six elementary schools featuring a local celebrity and Arthur the Aardvark. After the presentation, children were taken outside to see a natural gas Ride-On bus, an electric car, snowplow and the Recyclemobile as part of National Public Works Week. DSWS hosted the MCPS/Waste Management School Recycling Poster contest awards reception with over 100 people attending. DSWS also hosted an awards reception for 50 businesses and individuals for their outstanding recycling efforts for 2001. Recycling week concluded with the Recycling Olympics in which six groups of businesses/individuals competed in various recycling activities.

**Multi-Family Recycling** – Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs and work with property managers and residents to provide assistance and support.

**Mixed Paper Recycling** – Canvassing is finishing up in the Montgomery Village area, and is moving into Area 11. Canvassers are equipped with mixed paper recycling information, including a new door-hanger and mixed paper recycling demonstration kits.

**Volunteer Activities** – During May, the volunteers assisted at two HHW collections, the Strawberry Festival in Colesville, and provided assistance in the office. Six volunteers attended Behind the Scenes as a continuing education effort.

## **PILOT PROGRAMS**

**Mixed Paper Pilot** – The May totals for the Potomac Paper Cart program are:

5/01/02	16,420 lbs.	20.27 lbs. per household
5/08/02	16,440 lbs.	20.30 lbs. per household
5/15/02	15,660 lbs.	19.33 lbs. per household
5/22/02	15,560 lbs.	19.21 lbs. per household
5/30/02	<u>23,720 lbs</u>	<u>29.28 lbs. per household</u>
Total	87,800 lbs.	21.68 lbs. average for May

The current average weight per house for the 35 weeks of the cart program is 20.45 lbs. as opposed to 13.99 lbs. per house prior to the program.

**Tubgrinding Pilot** – Tubgrinding of screened reject material is ongoing.

## **FACILITY ACTIVITIES**

**Resource Recovery Facility** – The facility ran with 3 boilers for the month of May with the following exceptions: unit 1 was taken out of service from May 1-10, 2002 for a scheduled maintenance outage. The only unexpected event during the month was a turbine generator trip on May 28<sup>th</sup>. The generator was out of service for 45 minutes. A faulty instrumentation signal caused the trip.



There were no generation emergencies issued by Mirant during the month of May. There was a need to purchase power during the month as a result of the turbine generator trip. The facility purchased 4,400 kWhr during the 45 minute outage. June 1<sup>st</sup> begins the summer period for electrical generation. All electrical rates increase for the next four months.

Covanta declared chapter 11 bankruptcy on April 1, 2002. The plant continues to function and Covanta has developed agreements to ensure the delivery of required supplies and materials.

The following environmental activities occurred:

- Ron Wicks from MDE performed the annual NPDES inspection of the RRF. No significant issues were noted.
- URS performed an ISO 14001 Gap Analysis review of the RRF on May 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Environ Corp. performed an environmental audit of the RRF on May 14<sup>th</sup> as part of KKR's due diligence review.
- Submitted the March 2002 Potable Water Monthly Operating Report to MDE.
- The cylinder gas audits (CGA's) for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2002 were performed the week of May 20-24, 2002.
- The monthly visible emission (Method 9) observation required by the RRF's Title V permit was performed on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- The CEMS technician, Syl Ebron, submitted updated CD's that included data for March 2002.

**Materials Recovery Facility** – Approximately 1,893 tons of commingled material were shipped out after processing, and approximately 5,379 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility.

Removal of the existing processing system equipment is scheduled to begin 1 July. The entire building was power washed. A new speed bump was installed. Some benches and tables made from recycled plastic were purchased for use by visitors as well as staff.

DSWS worked on an agreement to haul commingled material during the plant outage to an alternate processing facility.

**Oaks Landfill** – A contract amendment was approved by Procurement that enables SCS Field Services to replace corroding steel pipes at the blower building. SCS began design work on May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Weston, the operations contractor for the leachate pre-treatment plant, contracted for work to expand the capacity of the oil/grit cleanout receiving area.

DSWS worked on final details of an Invitation for Bid for subdividing the leachate storage lagoons to facilitate long-term maintenance.

**Gude Landfill** – Highway and Safety Services, Inc. continued construction to regrade and add drainage pipes to about 10 poorly drained areas.

**Beantown Dump** – The few remaining businesses to receive a methane detector will have them installed on June 10th. The award for the bid for installing a passive landfill gas venting system was posted by Procurement to SCS Field Services.

**Transfer Station** – During May, Covanta shipped via rail 54,308 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the Resource Recovery Facility, 4,869 more tons than shipped in May 2001.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

New radiation detection equipment at both the Covanta and County scales was put into operation – all 19 alarms initiated on County scales, were from medical isotopes with short half-lives (in three cases the drivers themselves had had medical procedures and set off the alarms), and as such, all waste material was accepted.

Fencing was installed near the SEARS property.

Two more Transfer Station truck scales were overhauled.

A second interconnected computer was added to the scale house to increase the processing of customers.

Additional roof fans for the Transfer Station were delivered.

Antennas were installed to connect the scale house and the Recycling Center to the main office.

**Site 2 Landfill Properties** – DFS received 6 proposals for the renovation and leasing of the property. All interviews are complete. A formal recommendation is being developed. It is anticipated that a lease will be signed by August 1, 2002.

**Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan** – SCS Engineers made a presentation on updating the Facilities Master Plan at the FIG meeting in May; comments will be discussed at the next meeting in July.

Berm construction between the Compost Facility and the Gothic Barn is complete; the plantings on the berm have been completed.

The Spring Traffic Count to determine the impact of the County facilities in Dickerson on the community was done from May 13-17, 2002; results will be presented at the next FIG meeting.

**Yard Trim Compost Facility** – In the month of May, 7,508 tons of grass were delivered at the yard trim facility for composting.

**Bagging Operation** – In May, 101,850 bags of Leafgro were produced at the facility and 46,278 bags were shipped to distributors.

**Linden Farm Renovations** – Under the signed bagging agreement, the County is to renovate the Feed Barn and Bank Barn. Dean Fitzgerald, the contractor, started the renovation work in June; the first phase of the work is complete.

### **Out-of-County Haul**

**Brunswick County, Virginia** - During the month of May, about 14,668 tons of ash residue and 5,534 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. About 529 tons of material was recycled at Clean Earth in Hagerstown, MD. Maintenance on the ash container fleet, including replacement of corroded side panels, continues at the Collier Rail Yard near Petersburg, Virginia. DSWs has been working with the contractor to obtain additional equipment to address increasing waste volumes.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Important Telephone Numbers**

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370 (County Office) 301-590-1032 (Covanta)
Materials Recovery Facility	301-840-2701 (County Office) 301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	301-349-5685 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWS	<a href="http://www.mcrecycles.org">www.mcrecycles.org</a>

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

Theresa Souders  
Department of Public Works and Transportation  
Division of Solid Waste Services  
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor  
Rockville, MD 20850  
Tel: 240-777-6425  
Fax: 240-777-6465  
E-mail: [soudet@co.mo.md.us](mailto:soudet@co.mo.md.us)

## **SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL**

<b>TOPIC OR FACILITY</b>	
Latest Recycling Rate Reported in Montgomery County	37.2% (FY01)
Recycling Goal	45% by December 2002 50% by December 2004
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY01 tons received- 59,643
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	84,786
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	200,725
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

## **GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS**

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
LFG	Landfill Gas
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
Mg/l	milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NEA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPS	Office Paper Systems
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SDAT	State Department of Assessments and Taxation
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TXA170	Computer Interface Program
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
T.R.R.A.C.	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility